



Contact: Erny Zah
Director of Communications
Cell: (928) 380-0771
navajonationpress@navajo-nsn.gov

For Immediate Release
April 23, 2013

President Shelly Signs Executive Order to Shorten SAS Process

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly signed an Executive Order that will streamline one government process that sometimes takes years to complete.

President Shelly signed an executive order last Thursday to shorten the Signature Authority Sheet process for the Executive Branch SAS Review Sheet under Section 164b of Title 2, which doesn't include SAS sheets needing Legislative approval.

"We are making progress for our SAS process. With the new changes, we will be able to shorten the SAS process to a month. We are going back to the original intent of the law. This is a review process not an authorization process," President Shelly said.

Chief Of Staff Arbin Mitchell said the SAS review process has changed from a review process to an approval process, which creates delays.

"The process is to review and make recommendations to the documents. But now we have people who use their signature as approval and sometimes SAS documents are delayed for months. The SAS process, you're supposed to review and provide recommendations," Chief of Staff Mitchell said.

The executive order is scheduled to begin the updated SAS process on July 1 this year.

Reviewers will have seven working days to sign the document and offer recommendations. After the seventh day, the document goes to the next reviewer whether it has been signed or not.

“Some of these documents are time sensitive. We are making our government better with this executive order,” President Shelly added.

Chief of Staff Mitchell added that the Office of the President and Vice President are working to build an online SAS tracking system.

“Some of these documents, we need to know where they’re at, which department has them. It’s all a part of making the government more efficient,” Chief of Staff Mitchell added.

###